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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents JP 5-24992, JP 2819030 and JP 2819031 may be found, inter alia, in the specification where they are cited and in the English abstract attached thereto. The concise explanation of relevance for JP 2819030 and JP 2819031 may also be found in the enclosed corresponding U.S. Patent Nos. 5,130,170 and 5,510,150, respectively. Further, the concise explanation of relevance for JP 8-97161 may be found, inter alia, in its enclosed English translation.

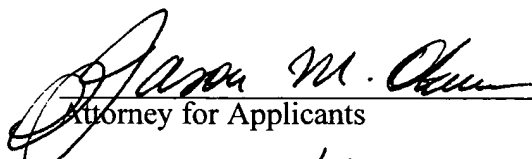
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

It is believed that no fee is required to obtain consideration of this information. However, if such a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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